



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.			
Typed or Printed Name		CINDY HOANG	
Signature		Date	7/9/2002

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111 Address to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231	Attorney Docket Confirmation No.	UCAL250CON4 4393
	First Named Inventor	M. LaVail
	Application Number	08/897,390
	Filing Date	July 21, 1997
	Group Art Unit	1647
	Examiner Name	R.C. Hayes
	Title	Prevention of retinal injury and degeneration by specific factors

17/a
J.G.
12/17/12

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated February 13, 2002 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before May 13, 2002. *A Petition for a two-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith, making this amendment due on or before July 13, 2002.* Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

In view of the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please enter the amendments to claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 13, 15, 17, 20, 22-24, 26, 29, 31, and 33, as shown below.

Please enter new claims 39-41, as shown below.

07/22/2002 SSSESHE1 0000052 500815 00897390
01 FC:103 54.00 CH
02 FC:102 84.00 CH
03 FC:116 400.00 CH

a¹ 1. (Amended) A method of reducing degeneration of retinal neurons in a mammal caused by exposure to light to other environmental trauma comprising administering to the mammal, prior to, during or following such exposure, a dose of a neurotrophic factor effective to reduce degeneration of retinal neurons, wherein degeneration of retinal neurons is reduced.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said retinal neurons are photoreceptors.

a² 4. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said administration is intraocular.